

DATE 1/16/07
HB 6/8

City of Hamilton Wastewater Facilities Improvements

The City of Hamilton is requesting that the Legislature's Joint Long-Range Planning Subcommittee re-consider recommendation for project funding through HB-11. Key Merits of the Project include:

Resolves Critical Public Safety Problems

This project eliminates septic systems that leach infectious wastewater into the ground above the Hamilton area aquifer. Known failures of on-site septic systems in the project area have placed household water wells at risk, placed the public at risk for contact with untreated wastewater, and threatened the City's domestic water supply wells. The project also removes potential public contact with waste from the screenings process by enhancing screenings handling at the WWTP.

Reduces Existing Operations Staff Hazards

This project will resolve critical operations staff hazards associated with hauling of the raw sewage screenings. Because the City's refuse hauler will not accept un-dried screenings, the City personnel are currently forced to handle the raw screenings to haul them from the facilities to drying beds on-site, where they are spread out to dry. Once they have dried sufficiently, the staff must handle them again to place them in a City dump truck.

Meets Public Approval

The project public process is completed and the project has received strong community support, including support from area businesses and school district. The project will serve a population with the fifth lowest Median Household Income (MHI) in the state.

Ready to Go!

Project preliminary design has been ongoing since the original grant submittal and the City is prepared to transition to final design immediately. The City of Hamilton is currently finalizing a detailed wastewater rate study and impact fee analysis and will adjust their rates accordingly to meet the needs of the project. Funding assistance from the TSEP program is needed to ensure City rates do not excessively exceed target rates.

Anticipated Funding Sources

Agency	Funding
TSEP ?	\$750,000
DNRC (RRGL)	\$100,000
Cash Reserves	\$625,000
Wastewater User Rate	
Adjustment and Bonds	\$1,626,000
TOTAL	\$3,101,000